

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as set forth in the following listing. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims for the present application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of sharing an object in a portal framework, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a first site, wherein the first site comprises a first collection of objects;

assigning a first share privilege at the first site to a first user of a first site to allow the first user to share a first object from the first collection of objects with another site;

storing a reference to the object in a first repository in the portal framework, wherein the first repository is associated with or available to the first site on the portal framework, wherein the first repository resides on a machine comprising a processor and a data store in the portal framework, and wherein the reference to the object contains information for accessing the object;

providing a second site, wherein the second site comprises a second collection of objects stored in a second repository;

assigning a second privilege at the second site to a second user, wherein the second privilege allows the second user to access objects in the second repository, wherein the first privilege assigned to the first user allows the first user to share a first object from the first site with the second site and the second privilege assigned to the second user allows the second user to view the duplicate of the reference to the object;

performing a first operation to store a duplicate of the reference to the object in the second repository associated with or available to the second site on the portal framework based on the first privilege, wherein the second repository resides on a machine comprising a processor and a data store; and

allowing the second user to view the duplicate of the reference to the object based on the second privilege;

wherein, via the duplicate of the reference stored in the second repository, the object becomes available to the second site for reuse by the second site on the portal framework; and

wherein the first operation is in accordance with the first share privilege; and

wherein the first and second privilege are granted independent of the reference to the object, the duplicate of the reference of the object and the object.

2.-3. (Cancelled).

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of performing a second operation to unshare the object with the second site, wherein the second operation removes the duplicate of the reference of the object from the second repository.

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the first share privilege assigned to the first site allows the first site to store a reference to the object in a shared repository, wherein the second privilege assigned to the second site allows the second user to access the shared repository to view the duplicate of the reference to the object.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 6, further comprising assigning a third privilege to a third user, wherein the third privilege allows the third user to access objects in the second repository; and allowing the third user to view the duplicate of the reference to the object based on the third privilege, wherein the first, second and third privileges are granted independent of the reference to the object, the duplicate of the object and the object.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of performing a second operation to store a second duplicate of the reference to the object in a third repository.

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, further comprising the step of performing a third operation to add the object to the second site.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 9, further comprising the step of performing a fourth operation to remove the duplicate of the reference of the object from the second repository.

11. (Original) The method according to claim 10, wherein the fourth operation further comprises the step of removing the object from the second site.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the first operation further comprises the step of storing references to each child object of the object in the second repository.
13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the first operation further comprises the step of excluding references to at least one child object of the object in the second repository.
14. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for sharing an object in a portal framework, the computer program product comprising:
 - at least one non-transitory computer readable medium; and
 - computer program instructions, recorded on the at least one non-transitory computer readable medium, executable by a processor, for performing the steps of:
 - providing a first site, wherein the first site comprises a first collection of objects;
 - assigning a first share privilege at the first site to a first user of the first site to allow the first user to share a first object from the first collection of objects with another site;
 - storing a reference to the object in a first repository in the portal framework, wherein the first repository is associated with or available to a first site on the portal framework, wherein the first repository resides on a machine comprising a processor and a data store in the portal framework, and wherein the reference to the object contains information for accessing the object; and
 - providing a second site, wherein the second site comprises a second collection of objects;
 - assigning a second privilege at the second site to a second user, wherein the second privilege allows the second user to access objects in the second repository, the first privilege assigned to the first user allows the first user to share a first object from the first site with the second site, the second privilege assigned to the second user allows the second user to view the duplicate of the reference to the object;
 - performing a first operation to store a duplicate of the reference to the object in a second repository associated with or available to the second site on the portal framework based on the first privilege, wherein the second repository resides on a machine comprising a processor and a data store; and
 - allowing the second user to view the duplicate of the reference to the object based on the second privilege;

wherein, via the duplicate of the reference stored in the second repository and the permission added to the second set of permissions, the object becomes available to the second site for reuse by the second site on the portal framework; and

wherein the first operation is in accordance with the first share privilege; and

wherein the first and second privilege are granted independent of the reference to the object, the duplicate of the reference of the object and the object.

15.-16. (Cancelled).

17. (Previously Presented) The computer program product according to claim 14, further comprising computer program instructions for performing the step of performing a second operation to unshare the object with the second site, wherein the second operation removes the duplicate of the reference of the object from the second repository.

18. (Cancelled).

19. (Currently Amended) The computer program product according to claim 14, wherein the first share privilege assigned to the first site allows the first site to store a reference to the object in a shared repository, wherein the second privilege assigned to the second site allows the second user to access the shared repository to view the duplicate of the reference to the object.

20. (Previously Presented) The computer program product according to claim 19, further comprising assigning a third privilege to a third user, wherein the third privilege allows the third user to access objects in the second repository; and allowing the third user to view the duplicate of the reference to the object based on the third privilege, wherein the first, second and third privileges are granted independent of the reference to the object, the duplicate of the object and the object.

21. (Previously Presented) The computer program product according to claim 14, further comprising computer program instructions for performing the step of performing a second operation to store a second duplicate of the reference to the object in a third repository

22. (Previously Presented) The computer program product according to claim 21, further comprising computer program instructions for performing the step of performing a third operation to add the object to the second site.

23. (Previously Presented) The computer program product according to claim 22, further comprising computer program instructions for performing a fourth operation to remove the duplicate of reference of the object from the second repository.
24. (Previously Presented) The computer program product according to claim 23, wherein the fourth operation further comprising the step of removing the object from the second site.
25. (Previously Presented) The computer program product according to claim 14, wherein the first operation further comprises the step of storing duplicates of references to each child object of the object in the second repository.
26. (Previously Presented) The computer program product according to claim 14, wherein the first operation further comprises the step of excluding references to at least one child object of the object in the second repository.

27.-39. (Cancelled).

40. (Currently Amended) A method of sharing an object in a portal framework comprising:

 providing a first site, wherein the first site comprises a first collection of objects;

 storing a reference to the object in a first site repository in the portal framework, wherein the first site repository is associated with the first site on the portal framework, wherein the first repository resides on a machine comprising a processor and a data store in the portal framework, and wherein the reference to the object contains information for accessing the object;

 assigning a first share privilege at the first site to a first user at the first site to allow the first user to share a first object from the first collection of objects with another site;

 storing a first copy of the reference to the object in a second site residing on a machine comprising a processor and a data store in the portal framework, wherein the second site repository is associated with a second site on the portal framework, wherein the second site comprises a second collection of objects;

 assigning a second privilege at the second site to a second user, wherein the second privilege allows the second user to access objects in the second repository, wherein the first privilege assigned to the first user allows the first user to share a first object from the first site with the second site, the second privilege assigned to the second user allows the second user to view the duplicate of the reference to the object; and

 allowing the second user to view the duplicate of the reference to the object based on the second privilege;

 wherein, via the first duplicate of the reference stored in the second site repository and the first privilege assigned to the first user, the object becomes available to the second site for reuse by the second site on the portal framework; and

 wherein the first operation is in accordance with the first share privilege, wherein the first and second privilege are granted independent of the reference to the object, the duplicate of the reference of the object and the object.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 40, further comprising storing a second duplicate of the reference to the object in a third site repository in the portal framework, wherein the third site repository is associated with the second site based on a third privilege.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 40, wherein the object is a compound object having child objects and wherein the step of storing the first copy of the reference further comprises storing at least one reference to at least one of the child objects in the second site repository in the portal framework.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 42, wherein the object referenced by the reference to the object is copied to a shared site repository.

44. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 43, further comprising storing the object referenced by the reference to the object in a database remote from the shared repository.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the object comprises a style object providing code that controls display of elements of a web site.